

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly replace the paragraph beginning at Page 8, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

To utilize the services provided by an application 22 on a host device, such as a smart card, the clients make appropriate calls to the application. In the context of an object-oriented program, for example, these calls are typically made by invoking methods on the application. One technique for performing remote method invocation to an application stored on a smart card is described in copending, commonly assigned Application Serial No. 09/740,986 [~~GEM-889~~], the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. As described in detail therein, in order to access the services provided by an application, the client needs to be aware of the particular methods that can be invoked. Typically, this awareness is provided by means of an interface, which provides a definition of the various methods that can be invoked, as well as the arguments or parameters associated with each method. In the technique described in the foregoing application, a card applet proxy functions to convert requests to invoke methods on the applet into low-level communication messages that can be understood by the smart card. For a client to be able to access the services of an application on a smart card, therefore, it must be programmed with the interface and the proxy, or otherwise be able to obtain the interface and the proxy. In the context of a distributed computing system, the clients are able to obtain the interface, attribute information and, if needed, the proxy by means of a service bundle 18 which is uploaded to a directory facilities server 16 by the application that provides the desired service.